

REMARKS***Claim Status***

Currently, Claims 1 – 18 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejects Claims 1 – 3, 6 – 8, and 14 – 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoriki (U.S. Pat. No. 6,640,431). Hence, the Examiner asserts that Yoriki discloses each and every limitation, for example, of the multiple insertion head defined in Claim 1. Applicants traverse for the reasons set forth hereinafter.

Claim 1 defines a multiple insertion head having, among other limitations, a carrier and a plurality of receiving tools, wherein each receiving tool is provided with at least one of an active drive and sensors. (Emphasis added.) That is, each receiving tool has its own active drive and/or sensors. Advantageously, each receiving tool can be moved and controlled individually, and components can be mounted independently of external actuators. This improves the mounting precision because coupling or uncoupling of external actuators is not necessary, as mentioned in the present specification. (Page 2, line 31 to page 3, line 3.)

In contrast, Yoriki discloses that only the receiving tool at a certain rotational position is coupled to a drive or sensor. The drives/actuators and sensors are stationary at certain rotational positions of the receiving tools. However, none of the receiving tools has its own active drive and/or sensor.

To support this conclusion, Applicants submit the following:

- Yoriki shows in Fig. 14 an EC-image taking device 160 that is stationary at the X-axis slide 54 of the positioning system for the insertion head, namely, at an EC-image-take position. (Col. 18, lines 13 – 15.) Hence, the EC-image taking device 160 can only interact with the receiving tool in this position. However, none of the receiving tools has an own EC image taking device 160.
- The reference-mark-image taking device 162 shown in Fig. 14 is also stationary fixed to the X-axis slide 54 of the positioning system for the insertion head. (Col. 18, lines 15-18.) The reference-mark-image taking

device 162 can, therefore, interact only with the receiving tool at this position of the head. Again, none of the receiving tools comprises its own reference mark image taking device 162.

- As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the sensors 390, 392, 394, 396 shown in Fig. 14 are each provided only once at a certain station of the insertion head at the X-axis guide of the positioning system. (Col. 19, lines 37-55.)
- Further, the Y-axis servo motor 65 and the X-axis servo motor 66 are for driving the positioning system for the insertion head, but not for driving the receiving tools. (Col. 14, line 49 to col. 15, line 8.)
- The IR-body rotating servo motor 76 is for rotating the complete insertion head, but not for actively driving the receiving tools. Hence, the apparatus includes only one servo motor 76. (Col. 15, lines 32-45.)
- The linear servo motor 172 belongs to an elevating and lowering device 170 that is provided on an EC-suck-and-mount position of the insertion head. (Col. 18, lines 32-67, and Fig. 2.) The elevating and lowering device 170 is for lowering the receiving tool that is in the rotational station. For that purpose, the elevating and lowering device 170 needs to be coupled to the receiving tool. None of the receiving tools includes its own elevating and lowering device 170.
- The solenoid valves 213, 322 and the alarming device 358 are not active drives or sensors, and do not belong to the insertion head.
- The nozzle rotating device is provided only once and coupled to the receiving tool via a gear. (Col. 19, lines 6-36, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3.) Hence, none of the receiving tools has its own active nozzle rotating device, but only a common nozzle rotating device is provided at the X-axis slide of the positioning system.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that Yoriki does not disclose or suggest a multiple insertion head wherein each receiving tool is provided with at least one of an active drive and sensors. Therefore, Yoriki does not disclose or suggest each and every limitation recited in Claim 1, and, consequently, does not anticipate the subject matter of Claim 1. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and to pass Claim 1 to allowance.

Claims 2 – 18 depend from Claim 1. For this reason and because of the additional features recited in the dependent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that Yoriki does not anticipate Claims 2 – 18. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to pass Claims 2 – 18 to allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner rejects dependent Claims 4 – 5 as being unpatentable over Yoriki in view of Gieskes (U.S. Publ. No. 2004/0074085 A1), and Claims 9 – 13 as being unpatentable over Yorkiki in view of Asai (U.S. Patent No. 5,588,195). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claims 4 – 5 and 9 – 13 depend from Claim 1. The above arguments are repeated herein. Gieskes or Asai do not provide the missing teachings in Yoriki to anticipate nor render obvious Claim 1. Accordingly, at least for the above reasons, Claims 4 – 5 and 9 – 13 are also allowable and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

The present response is intended to correspond with the Revised Amendment Format. Should any part of the present response not be in full compliance with the requirements of the Revised Amendment Format, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned for immediate correction.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is herewith respectfully requested.

Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' attorney in order to resolve such issues promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502464 referencing attorney docket number 2003P00148WOUS.

Date: 5/2/06

Respectfully submitted,



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